†ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಕೃಷ್ಣಶೆಟ್ಟಿ (ಮಂಗಳೂರು-2).—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ನಮಗೆ ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ಹತ್ತು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕಳುಹಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಕಾಶವಿತ್ತು. ಅದು ಈಗ ಹೋಗಿ 4-5 ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬಂದು ಇಳಿದಿದೆ. ಇಷ್ಟಾದರೂ ಈ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು 15 ದಿವಸಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತರಗಳನ್ನು ಓದಗಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ರೂಲ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ. ಆ ನಮ್ಮ ಪಾರ್ಲಮೆಂಟಿನವರಾದರೋ ಒಂದೇವಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತರಗಳನ್ನೊದಗಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ನಮ್ಮ ಕೆಲವು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೆಕ್ರೆಟೇರಿಯಟ್ಟಿನಿಂದಲೇ ಉತ್ತರ ದೊರೆಯುವಂತಿದ್ದರೂ ಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಉತ್ತರಗಳು ಬರುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಪ್ರಶ್ನೋತ್ತರದ ಕಾಲವೆಂದರೆ ನಿಜವಾಗಿಯೂ ಜನರ ಒಂದು ಕುತೂಹಲವನ್ನು ಕೆರಳಿಸುವಂಥ ಸಂದರ್ಭ. ಇದನ್ನು ಕೂಡ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ನಡುಪಯೋಗ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೆ ಇದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದ ಗಮನವನ್ನು ಕೊಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ನಾನು ಕೇಳಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ಎಂ. ದೇವ್ (ಗುಬ್ಬಿ).—ಸ್ವಾಮೀ, ಈ ಸಭೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಕಲಾಪಗಳನ್ನು ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮವಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೀವ್ರವಾಗಿ ಗಮನಿಸಿದರೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೇ ಆಗಲೀ ಸಭಿಕರಿಗೇ ಆಗಲೀ ಒಂದು ವಿಷಯ ಎದ್ದು ಕಾಣುತ್ತದೆ. ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಉತ್ತರಗಳು ಬರುವುದು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿರುವಾಗ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೋತ್ತರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಇರುವ ಒಂದು ಗಂಟೆಯ ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶವನ್ನೂ ತೆಗೆದು ಹಾಕಿರುವುದನ್ನು ನೋಡುವುದಾದರೆ ಈ ಸಭೆಯ ಘನತೆಗೆ ತಕ್ಕಂತೆ ಪ್ರಾಶಸ್ತ್ಯವನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೋ ಇಲ್ಲವೋ ಎನ್ನುವುದು ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ಗೊತ್ತಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿದ್ದೂ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಉತ್ತರ ಬರಲಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದರೆ ಒಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಪವಿತ್ರ ಸಭೆಯ ಘನ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಲೋಪ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ದೃಷ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ಈ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೋತ್ತರಗಳ ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನು ಗಂಭೀರವಾಗಿ ಪರ್ಯಾಲೋಚಿಸಿ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು ಎಂಬುದು ನನ್ನ ಅರಿಕೆ.

†ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಪಿ. ರೇವಣಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ (ತಿಪಟೂರು).—ಸ್ವಾಮೀ, ತಾವು ಪಾಶ್ಚಿಮಾತ್ಯ ದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಗಿ ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಪಾರ್ಲಮೆಂಟಿನ ಪ್ರಜಾ ಪ್ರಭುತ್ವವನ್ನು ನೋಡಿ ಬಂದಿರುವಾಗ ಅಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಕೂಡ ವಿರೋಧ ಪಕ್ಷಪಕ್ಷದವರು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕಳುಹಿಸಿಕೊಟ್ಟರೆ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಾರೆಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನಾವುದಾದರೂ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸಗಳಿವೆಯೇ ಎಂಬುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಾವು ಇಲ್ಲಿಯವರೆಗೂ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕೊಡಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಈಗ ಸದವಕಾಶ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಇಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಕೂಡ ವಿವರವಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಯುವಂತೆ ಹೇಳಿದರೆ ನಮಗೂ ಗೊತ್ತಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೋತ್ತರಗಳು ನಿಧಾನವಾಗಲು ಏನಾದರೂ ಕ್ರಮ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ನಡವಳಿಕೆಗಳೇನಾದರೂ ಇವೆಯೇ? ದೇವರಿಗಿಂತಲೂ ತಮಗೆ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಪವರು ಜಾಸ್ತಿ. ಅದರಿಂದ ತಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲೇ ಇದನ್ನೆಲ್ಲಾ ನಿರ್ಮಾಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ನಾನು ಅರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೇನೆ.

†ಶ್ರೀ ಗೋಪಾಲ ಸಾಲೆನ್ನ (ಮೂಡುಬಿದ್ರಿ).—ಸ್ವಾಮೀ, ಪ್ರಶ್ನೋತ್ತರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಒಂದು ಗಂಟೆಯಷ್ಟು ಕಾಲವನ್ನು ಮೀಸಲಾಗಿ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವಾಗ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಉತ್ತರ ಕಳುಹಿಸದೇ ಇರಲು ಕಾರಣವೇನು? ಕಳೆದ ಸೆಷನ್ನಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದ ಎಷ್ಟೋ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಇನ್ನೂ ಉತ್ತರ ಬಾರದೇ ಇವೆ. ಇವನ್ನೆಲ್ಲಾ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಸರಿಯಾದ ಒಂದು ಕಡಿವಾಣವನ್ನು ಹಾಕಲಿ ಎಂದು ನಾನು ಸೂಚಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಪ್ರಶ್ನೋತ್ತರಗಳಿಂದ ಜನಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಯಲು ಅನುಕೂಲವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಅವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಡುವುದು ಆಗತ್ಯ. ಏಕೆ ಇಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಉತ್ತರ ಕಳುಹಿಸರಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನುವುದನ್ನು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ಈ ಸಭೆಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸುವುದು ಆಗತ್ಯ.

Chair's Statement re: No. of Questions admitted, answered etc.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I would like to refer to a few facts. I read them over on the last occasion. The position is slightly modified and therefore I am giving the latest particulars that are relevant. As I said on the last occasion, the number of questions admitted and sent to Government is 1,010. The number of questions for which replies are due as on 28th September is 918. Number of questions for which replies have been received as on 28th is 671, and as on 3rd, 701. The Number of questions for which answers have been given on the Floor of the House is 664 as on 28th. As on the 3rd October that number of questions for which

(MR. SPEAKER)

answers were made on the Floor of the House is 693. The Number of questions and answers lists prepared and sent to Press "nil." Number of lists printed and ready "nil." Number of replies on hand is 7. I also mentioned on that occasion that the number of questions pending with the Government for a period of 15 days was 272. Out of this, 81 questions pertain to the Budget Session and 63 are pending for more than 3 months. I also stated the break up with regard to the various Departments.

Then the position to-day is, that the number of replies on hand is 8. All these pertain to a particular Department and they could not be included in the list as the Hon'ble Minister is on tour. The number of questions that are pending with Government for over the prescribed period of 15 days is 279. So, the position is that there was nothing that could be put down for this day. Apart from that, it would be generally proper to have one or two lists on hand so that the questions may be brought before the House. Two rules are relevant. One is that the questions have to be answered under rule 32 and under rule 40. Government shall send reply to a question for oral answer within 15 days of its receipt by the Government provided that the date of receipt for the purpose of this rule shall be the date on which the orders of the Speaker in regard to the admissibility of the question have been received by the Government.

> "Provided further that where a reply to a question is delayed beyond the aforesaid fifteen days the Government shall communicate to the Speaker the reasons for the delay and request that the question may be taken up for answer on a subsequent date not later than thirty days from the date of its receipt by the Government."

I think I have mentioned it before. On serious matters like this, when the House is engaging its attention, simply because one Member cannot contain himself with his anxiety, it is neither fair to me nor to him. I was just thinking why the Government had not even addressed a letter. Explaining the reasons for not furnishing answers within 15 days, when it was mentioned on the last occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister was pleased to tell the House that he would examine it. Thereafter, the position has not improved. Particularly, the Question Hour is so much valued by the Members. I make no distinction of an interpellation by 'A' party or 'B' party. Interpellations are all important. Therefore, drawing a distinction between a question given notice of by or member of the opposition and questions taken by others trying to attribute that there is deliberate delay is a position which I am not prepared to countanance. When it was mentioned last time by one or two members whose names could be found from the proceedings that there was delay on the part of the Legislature Secretariat. I requested them to let me have the particulars. I said that I would wait for two days. Nobody furnished me with particulars. I repeated that such of the

members who raised that objection might kindly help me by giving particulars. I may tell the House, till now, I have not received a single reference of a single question where in the delay is to be attributed to the Legislature Secretariat.

Therefore I am prepared even now to wait for a couple of days more but if nothing is given, all that I can say is that the remark which was made against the Legislature Secretariat having delayed or having helped the Government in delaying examination of questions coming from particular quarters is something which should not have been made on the floor of the House so lightly. As far the delay that was occurred after the transmission of the questions to Government, I must say that beyond explaining the position to the House there is very little that I can do except to tell the Government on the Floor of the House and during the sessions of the Assembly that that is something which is not at all praiseworthy. A certain amount of attention should be paid to the rules. When the rules provide that a reply is to be forwarded within 15 days, it should be furnished within that time. The rule also provides that if the reply cannot be furnished within 15 days, a request should be made and intimation sent as to why replies are not ready. I do not know why that rule was not observed even in regard to a single instance. When there are 279 questions for which replies are overdue, there should have been a request in writing, or even orally. There has been nothing of that type. It makes me a little sad. I think that things will not continue like this and that there will be an improvement. So far as the suggestion of Hon'ble Sri Lakappa is concerned, what action he has in mind under Rule 32, I cannot understand. If there is any step to be taken it has to be taken in accordance with the rules and if the rules do not provide for something, we may frame rules or amend rules or do all that is necessary but we must function within the ambit of the rules. All that I can do now is to say that it is not a praiseworthy state of affairs and Government will see that such things do not happen in future.

† Sri B D. JATTI (Minister for Finance).—From the facts disclosed by Hon'ble Speaker there appears to be delay on the part of the Government in supplying replies. Today the Chief Minister is not in the headquarters. He should have issued instructions to the Heads of Departments for supplying the necessary replies to all the questions sent by the Hon'ble Members.

Mr. SPEAKER.—That is what the Chief Minister had told me earlier.

Sri B. D. JATTI.—Today I will look into the matter and I will inform the House and also the Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Kindly see that we shall have enough answers.

Sri B. D. JATTI.—I will see that sufficient replies are sent from tomorrow.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Also kindly see that there is no room for much grievance.

Sri S. SIVAPPA (Sravanabelagola).—Sir, I have sent a motion of No-Confidence.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I am aware of it and I will deal with it.

Sri V.S. PATIL (Belgaum-I).—Last time when this issue of Questions and Answers was discussed on the Floor of the House, the chair was pleased to give us some guidance. Today also we have heard the Chair's opinion on the rules, law, etc. I am still doubtful that the Legislature should be so incompetent to deal with the frequent violation of Rules of Procedure.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I want the Hon'ble Member to withdraw the word that the Legislature is incompetent unless he is prepared to substantiate it.

Sri V. S. PATIL.—That is the impression created. The Chair just now said that that it was helpless if the Government was not sending replies. That should not be the case.

Mr. SPEAKER.—How does the Hon'ble Member call the Legislature Secretariat incompetent on that ground ?

Sri V. S. PATIL.—I am not saying this of the Legislature Secretariat. I am blaming the whole of Government and this House that we should have no rules or power to punish those who are committing a breach of the express rules of this House. The rule is quite clear that if the Government is unable to provide the answers within 15 days, they will take permission from you for extending the time upto one month and beyond one month they cannot keep the answers at all. In spite of this rule, if they are committing breach everyday, then I submit it is fully a breach of privilege of this House and that is why we must take and we must be prepared to take steps against those who are guilty.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Would the Hon'ble Member enlighten me on this aspect that it is a breach of privilege of the House ?

Sri V. S. PATIL.—My submission is that whatever rule regulating the conduct of business that has been accepted by the House is breached by anybody, whether an outsider or an insider, whether from the Government benches or the Opposition, then it amounts to a breach of privilege. Therefore I suggest that a Committee may be appointed .....

Mr. SPEAKER.—I want to undertand the member fully. Does every breach of a rule amount to a breach of privilege of the House ?

Sri V. S. PATIL.—To examine all these aspects, I submit that the matter may be referred to a small committee. The committee would go into the rules here, the rules and convention in the other Legisltures of the country and even foreign countries and tell us what the position is. We should not submit to the actions of Government when it says that it has not provided the answers. If it amounts to a breach of privilege we must see that the persons concerned, whether they are officers or Ministers are punished.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Does the Hon'ble Member mean a Special Committee ? Would he like to study the matter and help me ? I am studying it myself. Would I be right in pointing out to the Hon'ble Member, who is an experienced and seasoned Legislator that no consequence has followed in any Assembly uptil now. Therefore let us not

minimise the matter. Let us all sit and bestow some attention at a later date.

We will take up the next item.

Calling Attention to a matter of urgent Public Importance, viz.,

Accounts Position of the State Khadi and Village Industries Board.

Sri A. KRISHNA SHETTY.—I call the attention of the Minister for Industries and Commerce to a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the accounts position of the State Khadi and Village Industries Board.

† Sri K. MALLAPPA (Minister for Commerce and Industries).—Sir, the subject-matter came up before the House in the form of an interpellation and I think we have dealt with it in a satisfactory manner. But there was also a statement made by the Chairman of the Khadi and Village Industries Board in the Press. Certain allegations were made against the Government in the Statement. Therefore it has become necessary for me to give a rather full statement so that the House may understand the correct position about the Board. This is the statement.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಗೋಪಾಲಗೌಡ.—ಖಾದಿಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ ಹೇಗೆ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ರೆಲವೆಂಟ್? ಅವರಿಗೆ ಉತ್ತರ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಿರುವುದೋ, ನಮಗೆ ಉತ್ತರ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಿರುವುದೋ?

Sri K. MALLAPPA.—Certain matters were raised in the press statement and the House may be anxious to know the correct position. It is likely that the Members of this House will be interested to know more fully about the facts. I am not trying to answer the criticisms made in the press statement.

1-00 P.M.

"In a prepared statement issued to the Press on 16th September 1963 on the eve of laying down his office, the Chairman of the Mysore State Khadi and Village Industries Board, expunged as ordered by the Chair, has made certain observations regarding the working of the Khadi Board, more particularly in relation to accounts which has, naturally, caused much concern to this House. Government fully appreciate the anxiety of the House to ascertain the correct position. The matter has come up before the House on more than one occasion, during Question hour and I believe Hon'ble Members are already aware to some extent of the position.

As the House is well aware, the Mysore State Khadi and Village Industries Board is an autonomous Board set up under an Act of the Legislature. It has full powers of management which includes administration, finance and accounts. It is a fact that, under the powers vested in them under the Khadi and Village Industries Act, the Government appoint the Secretary and the Accounts Officer to the Board and the duties and responsibilities of these officers are prescribed under certain rules made by Government, but it is not correct to suggest that these